

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 - 17. (canceled)

1 18. (currently amended) A mine-detonation-resistant
2 understructure for a vehicle body, the understructure comprising:
3 a generally horizontal floor;
4 a downwardly concave one-piece armoring plate mounted on
5 the body underneath the floor without a direct connection to the
6 floor, concave toward and facing the ground, and spaced below the
7 floor by a distance sufficient to avoid contact with the floor upon
8 buckling of the plate caused by a mine blase underneath the plate,
9 the bottom plate being formed with at least one longitudinally
10 extending bending edge, the armoring plate being wholly formed by a
11 plurality of substantially planar sections or panels interconnected
12 at corners; and

13 a deformation free space formed between the plate and the
14 floor of a height sufficient to permit inward buckling of the plate
15 under a mine detonation without contact of the plate with the floor
16 and substantially free of any force-transmitting structure engaging
17 the floor and plate.

1 19. (previously presented) The mine-detonation
2 resistant understructure defined in claim 1 wherein the floor is

3 formed at least in part of a material having fragment-trapping
4 properties.

1 20. (previously presented) The mine-detonation
2 resistant understructure defined in claim 19 wherein the floor is
3 provided with a fragment trapping carpet of a flexible high
4 strength material to prevent incursion fragments into an interior
5 of the body.

1 21. (previously presented) The mine-detonation
2 resistant understructure defined in claim 20 wherein the carpet is
3 composed of a plurality of layers of an aramide fabric.

1 22. (previously presented) The mine-detonation
2 resistant understructure defined in claim 20 wherein the carpet is
3 secured to the floor only at edge regions thereof.

1 23. (previously presented) The mine-detonation
2 resistant understructure defined in claim 19 wherein the floor is
3 provided with a slip-resistant material along an upper surface
4 thereof.

1 24. (previously presented) The mine-detonation
2 resistant understructure defined in claim 23 wherein the slip-
3 resistant material is a rubber layer.

4 25. (previously presented) The mine-detonation
5 resistant understructure defined in claim 18 wherein the floor is
6 mounted in the body so as to be easily dismountable.

1 26. (previously presented) The mine-detonation
2 resistant understructure defined in claim 25 wherein the floor is
3 attached to side walls of the body by screws.

27. (canceled)

1 28. (currently amended) ~~The mine-detonation resistant~~
2 ~~understructure defined in claim 27 wherein~~ A mine-detonation-
3 resistant understructure for a vehicle body, the understructure
4 comprising:

5 a generally horizontal floor;

6 a downwardly concave one-piece armoring plate mounted on
7 the body underneath the floor without a direct connection to the
8 floor, concave toward and facing the ground, and spaced below the
9 floor by a distance sufficient to avoid contact with the floor upon
10 buckling of the plate caused by a mine blase underneath the plate,
11 the bottom plate being formed with at least one longitudinally
12 extending bending edge;

13 a deformation free space formed between the plate and the
14 floor of a height sufficient to permit inward buckling of the plate
15 under a mine detonation without contact of the plate with the floor

16 and substantially free of any force-transmitting structure engaging
17 the floor and plate;

18 modular armor plate elements mounted along an underside
19 of the plate; and

20 guide rails [[are]] provided along edges of the plate to
21 receive the modular armoring plate elements.

1 29. (previously presented) The mine-detonation
2 resistant understructure defined in claim 28, further comprising
3 connecting strips in the form of rails between individual modular
4 armor plate elements.

1 30. (previously presented) A mine-detonation-resistant
2 understructure for a vehicle body, the understructure comprising:
3 a main armoring plate bent inward into the body, mounted
4 on the body in juxtaposition with the ground and formed in a
5 longitudinal direction of the vehicle with at least one bending
6 edge;

7 a floor spaced above the main plate and mounted on the
8 body without a direct connection with the main plate;

9 a deformation free space formed between the main plate
10 and the floor of a height sufficient to permit inward buckling of
11 the main plate under a mine detonation without contact of the main
12 plate with the floor;

13 modular armor plates mounted along an underside of the
14 main plate;
15 guide rails being provided along edges of the main plate
16 to receive the modular armoring plates;
17 connecting strips in the form of rails between individual
18 modular armor plates; and
19 pins engaging into edge regions of the armor plates and
20 into the connecting strips and the guide rails.

1 31. (previously presented) The mine-detonation
2 resistant understructure defined in claim 30 wherein the armor
3 plates and the strips and rails have aligned holes to receive the
4 pins.

1 32. (previously presented) The mine-detonation
2 resistant understructure defined in claim 31 wherein at least some
3 of the pins are screws threaded into the distal sides of the guide
4 rails and connecting strips.

1 33. (previously presented) The mine-detonation
2 resistant understructure defined in claim 31 wherein the pins are
3 composed of high strength material.

1 34. (previously presented) The mine-detonation
2 resistant understructure defined in claim 31 wherein the pins are

- 3 fixed by screw thread devices in holes in the armor plates, the
4 strips or the rails.